

Bishop Hood Rebukes Corrothers and Walters

NO OPEN DOOR FOR THE NEGRO IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

BY BISHOP J. W. HOOD
(Senior Bishop of the A. M. E. Zion Church.)

As might have been expected, the appeal on behalf of the Negro made by our good friend, Colone' Watter-son, was made in vain. I have been cognizant of the spirit of the National Democratic party for more than sixty years, and for this whole period that party has been against the Negro. It has been responsible for every national act against the Negro, including the Fugitive Slave Law, "the sum of all villainies." It has also opposed every national act in the Negro's favor. It therefore could not have been expected to change its heart so quickly. Those Negro politicians who have been in private communication with the leader of that party ought to realize that they are taking a course which is calculated, if not designed, to deceive and mislead our people. This is not the time for the Negro to support the National Democratic ticket. It is to be hoped that the time may come, but conditions are strongly against it now. In the South there is hesitation in the Republican party to recognize the political rights of the Negro. The leaders of what is called the "Lily Whites" seem to be trying to show that they have no more use for the Negro than the Democrats have (hardly as much). Any man among them who is supposed to be at all favorable to the Negro is often turned down. With this state of affairs in the South, the Negro is perfectly safe in taking his choice of the candidates presented by the two parties. He is not allowed a voice in the nomination of either in some of the States South, and both hold similar views respecting his political rights. But in the North it is different. There the Negro is recognized from start to finish. And there is another difference. In the South the mass of the best people are Democrats; but in the North the mass of the best people are Republicans. In voting the Republican ticket in the North the Negro lines up with the best people, and in support of the best measures. The National Democratic party has always been controlled by the pro-slavery and anti-Negro sentiment, and is still controlled by the same sentiment. This being the case, I repeat, it is not the time for the Negro to vote for the national candidates of that party. I have a fear that it would be a fatal blunder. It will be remembered that the Negro made two great blunders in the State of North Carolina which were the cause, very largely, of his disfranchisement in that State. If the Negro had lined up with the best white people in that State and prohibition had been adopted, largely by his vote in 1881, he would never have been disfranchised in that State. The men with whom the better class of Negroes were allied would never have permitted the disfranchisement of the race if the race had stood with them in that struggle. I did all I could to persuade my people to take the wise course, but many of the thoughtless Negro politicians said some very unkind things about all who favored prohibition. "Something behind it" was the slogan of the antis. Our people were made to believe that it was a step toward their re-enslavement. Prohibition was defeated, and the Negro was blamed for it; although he was not responsible for it. We were getting somewhat over this when the last, the fatal, blunder was made; namely, when Judge Russell was elected governor, largely by the Negro vote. It is doubtful if any man ever hated the Negro more than Judge Russell did. I opposed his nomination, which, when he learned it he wrote asking me to let up. I refused, and then he wrote me a bitter letter. His inaugural address indicated that his administration was to be one of hate, spite and vengeance. He seemed determined to do all he

could to vex the best whites and to bring down their wrath upon the Negro, who was largely responsible for his election. His action was what I expected. All know the result. As a watchman on the wall I see a new danger, and now sound the alarm. A greater blunder and on a larger scale is now threatened. Should Bryan be elected, largely by the Negro vote, we should bring down upon ourselves the wrath of this nation. What good reason can we give for supporting Bryan against Taft? To spite the President? Spite work never pays. Children might do spite work, but it seems to me that our race leaders have had time to get away from childhood. But have they thought of the great interests that are involved in this election? The vast variety of interests in which eighty millions of people are concerned? Can we feel justified in permitting one incident to outweigh in our minds everything else that the nation holds dear? Nobody knows what Bryan would do if elected. We know what he would like to do if he could just have his way. He would like to have the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1; that is, he would like to have fifty cents worth of silver to pass for one dollar, so that your salaries or wages would be worth just half what they are now. This is dropped from his present platform, as several other things are, in order to catch votes. The serpent is still a serpent, notwithstanding he has crawled out of his last year's coat and left it in the briars. But the old silver coat has not been left in the briars; it has been carefully put away in the wardrobe, to be taken out and worn again when convenient. The same is true of other issues which have been dropped out of sight to keep them from frightening voters. Many Democrats are afraid of him, and many more will cast a vote for him with the hand while praying in their hearts for the election of Taft. The Denver platform and the Denver candidates are a menace to the entire business interests of the country, and also a menace to our judicial system. It is not believed by the conservative sentiment of the country that Bryan can be elected. Anarchism, socialism, and the other issues have their candidates which will absorb much of the radical forces. The only hope for the Democratic ticket is that a sufficient amount of the Negro vote in a few of the Northern States can be fooled or induced by other means known to politicians, to vote against Taft and thus defeat him. The Negro leaders who are giving their aid to this dangerous movement have assumed a fearful responsibility. The Negro has shown on many battlefields that he can be counted on in time of war. He needs now to show the broad, calm, clear, intelligent, wise and unselfish ability to measure up to the highest demands of good citizenship and of praiseworthy efforts in the arts of peace. He needs to show that he can use the ballot, if possible, to better effect than he used the sword. The best people in the land are supporting Taft, and we cannot afford to line up with any but the best.

PARAGRAPHIC NEWS.

Fred Holland, a deaf-mute subject to epilepsy, and Agnes Sexton, a mute and an invalid, were married in Lynn, Mass., lately.

German Day will be celebrated at the Bennings race track Monday, September 14.

One million copies or over of the speech of acceptance of Judge William H. Taft, as Republican presidential candidate, will be printed in pamphlet form for general distribution over the United States.

"Wanted—Men to act as dummies for street car fenders; wages, \$2 per day; no questions asked; references or experience not necessary." is what Pittsburg is asking for. The test of the new fenders on the cars will be with live men.

Mrs. Jennie Wilson died last Monday night while being conveyed to the Emergency Hospital in the ambulance.

Work has been commenced on a theater for the insane at the Government Hospital. This building will be up to date and will seat 700 patients and 300 visitors.

Denies His Authority

ANSWER TO THE RACE REVOLT.

To the Editor of the Washington Bee:

Allow space in your paper to make a statement relative to the position taken by the Colored Baptist Ministers' Conference of this city, who represent over twenty-nine thousand members of our churches. There are some members of the race who pose as leaders who represent a few hundred people, claiming to speak for the whole Negro race. Let no one

B. K. BRUCE

THE REGISTERSHIP OF THE TREASURY.

The first colored American to fill the position of Register of the Treasury was the late Blanch K. Bruce, formerly a Senator from the State of Mississippi. There were many politicians who never gave Mr. Bruce the credit for ability to which he was entitled. Those who knew him intimately knew that he was a man of superior executive ability and an orator. Before he would deliver a speech he would write it and revise



MR. ELMER DOVER.

deceive himself or the people of this country by crying that the Negro will vote the Democratic ticket. The Negro of this country, a majority of them at least, is not ready to go into the Democratic party, and we will not let a matter like this go uncontradicted by us. We deny that two million of Negro Baptists have authorized any man to speak for them in advocacy of Democracy and the support of Mr. W. J. Bryan for the presidency. What can any Negro see in the Democratic party? Mr. Bryan has denied the report that he has made any promise to the leaders or the committee that waited on him; furthermore, the president of the National Negro League, Rev. J. Milton Waldron, D.D., is not a member of the Colored Baptist Ministers' Conference of the District of Columbia; neither does he voice the sentiment of the colored Baptists of the District of Columbia nor of the country, while he may a few of his own church. This alliance is composed of the pastors of forty-six regular Baptist churches and one hundred and three preachers, and these churches have a membership of twenty-nine thousand. We believe we voice the sentiment of these people when we say, Let us try the old party again.

Done by order of the Colored Baptist Ministers' Conference of the District of Columbia at a regular meeting held in Zion Baptist Church, F street between Third and Fourth and a-half street southwest.

Rev. W. D. Jarvis, D.D., President.
Rev. J. I. Loving, D.D., Secretary.
Rev. J. T. Clark, D.D.,
Rev. J. A. Taylor, D.D.,
Rev. W. J. Howard, D.D.,
Rev. A. Wilbanks, D.D.,
Rev. P. Stewart,
Rev. A. Sayles,
Rev. A. Barton,
Rev. Limas Rouelac, Committee.

Martin R. Preston, of Nevada, convicted of murder, and serving a 22-year term, is the presidential nominee of the Socialist-Labor party.

tempt to recommend anyone or anything without asking Mr. Bruce. Very soon after this the understrappers wanted to transfer one of their friends from another division to the Register's office, but before an attempt was made Mr. Bruce was appealed to and asked to make the transfer, which was done.

No deputy register or chief of division would attempt to make transfers or promotions in his absence from the city, and neither did he promote unworthy white men over the heads of deserving colored men in his office. If a colored clerk was entitled to and deserved a promotion, Blanch K. Bruce was the man to do it.

There is only one act in Mr. Bruce's political career that he regretted: Just before he was taken ill and died he would promote and elevate his enemies in preference to his friends. He would know that a man was opposed to him politically, and that man would never know that Mr. Bruce knew it, although this same individual would come and ask him to do a favor. Mr. Bruce would invariably do the favor.

What has been greatly needed in the Register's office since the death of Blanch K. Bruce is a man with a backbone. When the backbone of any colored officeholder in authority grows The Bee will say so; but until then The Bee will be honest on all public questions and public men.

When a man deserves to be commended The Bee will gladly do so, but not otherwise.

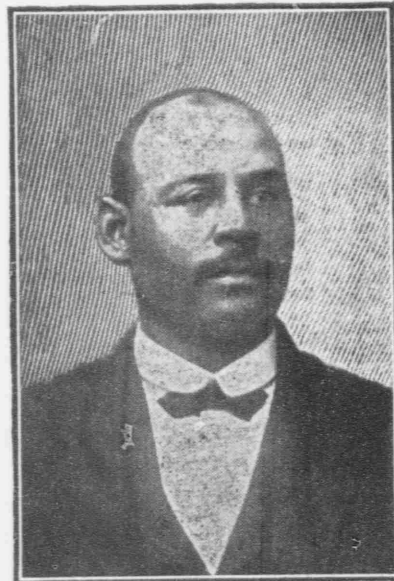
A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR.

Occasionally this city grows a benefactor; a man of broad and unselfish motives and a liberal heart. There is no man in this city more deserving of the patronage and support of the people than Mr. Lewis Jefferson, the manager of the Independent Steamboat and Barge Company, an institution that has shown more liberality to all classes of people, and more particularly to the colored citizens of this and other cities.

By his efforts the people of this city and other cities have been able to enjoy the pleasant steamboat rides, while it is true that other companies discriminate against the race to which he is identified.

Every church that wants to give an excursion and every benevolent and beneficial organization seeks Mr. Lewis Jefferson to engage his company's boats.

His greatest and most charitable



MR. LEWIS JEFFERSON,
A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR.

act is the tender of his boats to Prof. Booker T. Washington, free of all charges, for Monday, August 24 (see advertisement on the eighth page) to enable Mr. Washington to secure funds enough to pay off the mortgage that is on the home of the late Frederick Douglass. August 24 is the Frederick Douglass Memorial Day at Washington Park. All Washington should turn out and show its appreciation and gratitude for a man who gave the best portion of his life for the freedom of the colored race. Mr. Jefferson has given his boats to Mr. Washington for the benefit of the public. Mr. Jefferson is a man who has for a number of years endeavored to help his people. His management of the Steam and Barge Company is an evidence of his ability to conduct successful enterprises.

Read The Bee.

PARAGRAPHIC NEWS

By Miss Beatrice L. Chase.

Mrs. Tennie Freeman, a prominent woman of Little Rock, Ark., died very suddenly last week at Pine Bluff.

Dr. Forest Battis, of Harrisburg, who graduated from the medical department of Howard University some time ago, was quietly married last week in Philadelphia, Pa.

It is stated that the American literature is well liked in Frankfort, and henceforth will occupy a prominent place in the great Municipal Library there.

The newly appointed Assessor of the District, W. P. Richards, took up his new duties last Monday afternoon.

Chief of Police George, at Harrisburg, Pa., has issued orders to stop all street pianos and hand organs in that city.

While two young women were boating in the Oswego River at Oswego, N. Y., last Monday night, the steering gear of the motor boat broke, and the young women lost their lives.

A special appeal is made to the colored people of this city to aid in the work for Camp Pleasant.

William L. Montague, who was for many years professor of Latin and modern languages at Amherst College, until his resignation in 1895, died at his home in Amherst, Mass., last Monday after a long illness.

It is reported that the National Capital is adequately defended from the attacks of an imaginary enemy. The National Guard is on duty at the Potomac forts.

Thomas H. Pickford, owner of the Toronto Apartment House, at Twentieth and P streets, indicted for manslaughter, appeared before Justice Anderson last Tuesday and entered a plea of not guilty to the indictment.

A new church was organized in this city last Sunday by Rev. W. Bishop Johnson, pastor of the Second Baptist Church.

Helen Dington, a former comic opera singer, died at San Francisco last Saturday in extreme poverty.

The Baltimore and Washington Transit Company deposited \$1,000 to guarantee the completion of the road and carrying of passengers within the two-years' limit.

It seems that the Maryland officials are determined to put an end to Sunday frolicking.

Public Printer Leech has concluded that the health of the 4,200 workers in the Government Printing Office needs attention, so Dr. William J. Manning has been reinstated, having charge of the sanitation of the entire plant.

Great excitement was caused in Shiloh Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., a few Sundays ago, when a member fainted just as she raised the Communion cup to her lips.

It has been said that the late Bishop Potter was a firm believer in personal freedom on public questions.

The most popular shoe at this time is the tan in all shades of canvas, and kid in many shapes and trimmings.

The inspectors appointed to enforce the Child Labor law are kept quite busy.

A young man in Worcester, Mass., was married last week to his young stepmother, who is his senior by three years.

Mrs. Frank Leslie, who has just returned from a trip abroad, says the English women year clinging dresses with no underskirt, and she says the sheath gown is indecent.

It is reported that the Dutch minister has been expelled from Venezuela by its President.

A decision has been reached as to refitting some of the old Japanese battleships with modern improvements and pressing them into service if necessary.

The District Commissioners are going to make an effort to collect the special assessments for the extensions of streets in many sections of the city.

There was a case of smallpox on board the North German Lloyd steamer Barbarossa, which arrived at New York last Wednesday from Bremen and Cherbourg.